

REMARKS

I. Summary of the Examiner's Action

A. Claim Rejections

As set forth on page 3 in paragraph 3 of the October 16 Office Action, claims 1 – 3, 6 – 7 and 10 – 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,573,844 B1 to Venolia *et al.* (hereinafter “Venolia” or “the Venolia patent”) in view of United States Patent No. 5,963,671 to Comerford *et al.* (hereinafter “Comerford” or “the Comerford patent”).

These rejections are respectfully disagreed with and traversed below.

II. Applicant's Response

A. Rejection of Claims 1 – 3, 6, 7 and 11 – 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Applicant reproduces claim 1 (as amended) here as a convenience to the Examiner:

1. A method comprising:

receiving a separate information unit entered with an input element of a

dynamic I/O arrangement belonging to a user interface of an

electronic device;

determining from the separate information unit whether input entry is in a

first mode or a second mode,

wherein when it is determined that the input entry is in a first mode,
increasing in an equal amount size of members of a group of input
elements; and

when it is determined that the input entry is in a second mode, determining
based on probability which information units will likely be input
next; and emphasizing by size the input elements corresponding to
the information units likely to be entered next in the user interface
of the electronic device, wherein the sizes of the emphasized input
elements vary on a case-specific basis depending on respective
probabilities of the information units associated with the input
elements.

Claims 6 and 11 have been amended in a similar manner to claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claims 1, 6 and 11, as amended, is neither described nor suggested by the art of record, whether taken singly or in combination.

In particular, claims 1, 6 and 11 have been amended to recite subject matter directed to two input modes described in the specification. In a first input mode (for example, telephone number entry), the input elements corresponding to information units to be used to enter a telephone number are increased in size by an equal amount. In a second mode, the size of the input elements associated with information units likely to be selected next are increased in size by an amount corresponding to their relative probability. In other embodiments of this aspect of the invention the size of input

elements not corresponding to numbers may be decreased in size. In further embodiments of this aspect of the invention, the size of the portion of the user interface devoted to the numbers is increased in size, and the size of the remaining portion of the user interface is decreased in size. These further embodiments are now recited in the new dependent claims. No new matter has been added by these amendments either in the independent or dependent claims. Support for these amendments is found throughout the application as filed; see, for example, page 5, lines 21 – 31; page 6, lines 7 – 10, 29 – 35.

Applicant respectfully submits that the art of record neither describes nor suggests these combinations of features, whether taken singly or in combination.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are allowable over the art of record. As a result, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 1, 6 and 11 be withdrawn. Applicant also requests that the rejection of claims 2, 3, 7, 10 and 12 be withdrawn as well since these claims depend from allowable base claims.

III. Conclusion

Applicant submits that in light of the foregoing amendments and remarks the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that the case be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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